

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-6, 8-12, 18, 23, and 24 and the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 21 and 22.

Without acceding to the rejections in the final Office Action, Claim 21 has been canceled and the subject matter recited therein has been incorporated into Claim 16. Thus, Claim 16 should now be in condition for allowance. Further, Claims 17, 19, 20, and 22 should now also be in condition for allowance by virtue of their dependence on Claim 16.

Accordingly, this application is in condition for allowance, and an Early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T4342-14198US18) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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